

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 88-144

AN ORDER RESCINDING CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS NO. 86-7 AND 87-071, AND AMENDMENT ORDER NO. 88-017 TO REMOVE THE PROHIBITION OF ADDITIONAL DISCHARGES TO THE SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ST. HELENA, NAPA COUNTY, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 86-001.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter called the Board), finds that:

1. The Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) in April 1975 (revised in July 1982 and December 1986). The Basin Plan prohibits the discharge of wastewater which has particular characteristics of concern to beneficial uses into any non-tidal water, dead-end slough, similar confined waters, or any tributaries thereof. Exceptions to the above prohibition can be considered if a discharge is approved as part of a reclamation project.
2. The City of St. Helena (hereinafter called the Discharger) operates a 0.5 million gallon per day (MGD) secondary wastewater treatment plant located along the west bank of a non-tidal section of the Napa River. Release of effluent to the Napa River would require the Discharger to implement a water reclamation project. Furthermore, during summer months the Napa River does not have a flow large enough to maintain the minimum dilution required for discharge to the river. A summertime water reclamation project therefore is an essential element of the Discharger's wastewater disposal program.
3. The Discharger, since 1979, had proposed several different types of wastewater disposal and reclamation projects to comply with Board requirements, but the Discharger encountered repeated delays in successfully implementing a summertime reclamation project.
4. On February 19, 1986 the Board adopted Order No. 86-7, a revised Cease and Desist Order, requiring the City of St. Helena to cease and desist from discharging waste contrary to requirements prescribed by the Board, and establishing a time schedule for the completion of a water reclamation project.
5. Order No. 86-7 contains a provision which prohibits additional discharges to the Discharger's sewer system (sewer connection ban) based on concerns over the inadequacy of the Discharger's wastewater disposal capabilities, and both past and threatened violations of waste discharge requirements.

17. In a public meeting starting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 1988, in the Assembly Room of the State Building located at 1111 Jackson Street, Oakland, California, after due notice to the Discharger and other affected persons, the Board conducted a public hearing at which the Discharger and other interested persons appeared and evidence was received concerning the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Board's Cease and Desist Orders No. 86-7 and No. 87-071, amendment Order No. 88-017, and the Board's Resolution No. 86-001 are rescinded.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on September 21, 1988.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven R. Ritchie", is written over a horizontal line.

STEVEN R. RITCHIE
Executive Officer

[File No. 2139.3014]
[Originator/BDA]
[Reviewer/RJC]